

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 31 and 41 are amended. Claim 42 is canceled. Claims 2, 22, 31-36, and 41, and 43-48 are pending in this application.

The amendments to claims 31 and 41 insert sequence identifiers in adherence with 37 C.F.R. §§1.821 to 1.825. No new matter is added.

II. Sequence Listing

The Examiner objected to the sequence listing as not completely complying with the sequence listing rules. To address this issue, Applicants request entry of this amendment in adherence with 37 C.F.R. §§1.821 to 1.825. This amendment is accompanied by a floppy disk containing the above named sequences, SEQ ID NOS:1-32, in computer readable form, and a paper copy of the sequence information which has been printed from the floppy disk.

The information contained in the computer readable disk was prepared through the use of the software program "PatentIn" and is identical to that of the paper copy. This amendment contains no new matter.

III. Claim Objection

The Examiner objected to claims 44 and 42 because they are allegedly directed to the same subject matter. With entry of this Amendment, claim 42 is canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

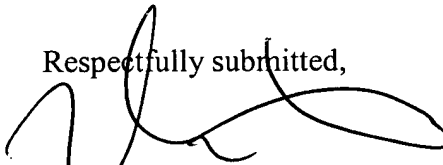
IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claim 47 was rejected as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner argued that the claim added new matter because it was not supported in the specification as originally filed. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Support for the claim can be found in originally-filed claims 1 and 6, which refer to a polynucleotide comprising each of the specific nucleotide fragments recited in the present claims. Additional support can be found on page 13, lines 25-33 of the specification. Applicants apologize for referring to the wrong portion of the specification for support in the previously-filed Amendment. In view of the support discussed above, Applicants submit that the subject matter of claim 47 does not represent new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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